

Mr. Powell

Thank you for taking the time to read my comments concerning Broadband. Competition is essential to bringing the price of broadband down and clec's breed competition. Covad is the only dsl provider to date to reduce their adsl pricing permanently. No other clec, rboc, or cable company can say that.

Also, on the line sharing issue, there are over 1 million customers that have dsl through line sharing. I do not think it would be wise to disrupt 1 million users. The cost impact to business and residential users alone would be staggering.

Clec's have invested (\$55 billion) and continue to invest in their own networks. The rboc's would lead you to believe that the clec's have spent nothing.

The FCC has supported line sharing in the past and it is the law of the land. The rboc's would rather lobby the FCC, congress, and the senate than deploy broadband. Meanwhile the clec's are building their business the American way and as our fore fathers projected. They are not breaking laws (1996 telecom act) or getting fined for breaking the law like the rboc's. They have already weeded out a number of clec's through stonewalling and litigation.

If you build a business based on a law that is in place, and that law is changed, is it fair to the business who is affected in an adverse way? The rboc's have had ample time to build out their networks and gain customer share, they didn't do that. In return they want to strike down their competition, not through pricing, service or customer satisfaction but through the legal system. What is wrong with this picture?

Thank you for your time.

Stuart J. Gold